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(54) **Pumping stage for a vacuum pump**

(57) The present invention relates to a pumping stage for a vacuum pump, having an improved geometry allowing an optimum trade-off to be achieved between the exhaust pressure and the pumping rate attained in

that stage. The pumping stage (1) according to the invention is characterised in that the axial extension or height of the pumping channel (3) varies along the circumference of said channel (3) between the inlet port (13) and the outlet port (15).

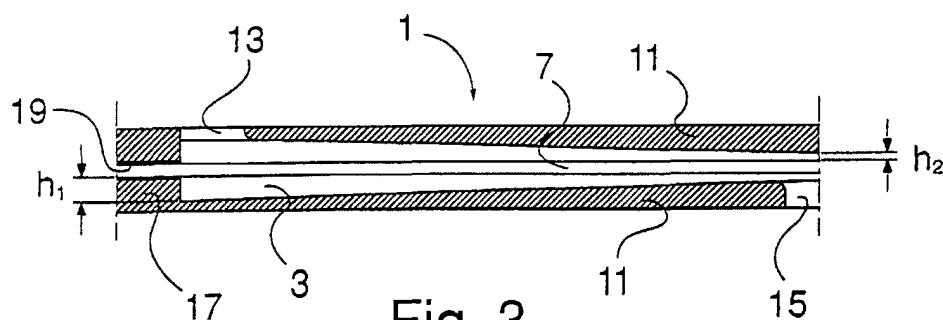


Fig. 3



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 00 3184

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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 22 December 2003	Examiner Teerling, J
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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